

S. Res. 247. A resolution commending the University of Washington Men's Crew, the 2007 Intercollegiate Rowing Association Champions; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Con. Res. 39. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a world day of remembrance for road crash victims; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 38

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 38, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program for the provision of readjustment and mental health services to veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services, volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 305, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to make it unlawful for a packer to own, feed, or control livestock intended for slaughter.

S. 358

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 358, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

S. 456

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 456, a bill to increase and enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs, to deter and punish violent gang crime, to protect law-abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, to revise and enhance criminal penalties for violent crimes, to expand and improve gang prevention programs, and for other purposes.

S. 661

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to establish kinship navigator programs, to establish guardianship assistance payments for children, and for other purposes.

S. 691

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 691, a bill to amend title XVIII

of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the Medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 777

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 777, a bill to repeal the imposition of withholding on certain payments made to vendors by government entities.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 805, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to assist countries in sub-Saharan Africa in the effort to achieve internationally recognized goals in the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS and other major diseases and the reduction of maternal and child mortality by improving human health care capacity and improving retention of medical health professionals in sub-Saharan Africa, and for other purposes.

S. 824

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 824, a bill to amend Public Law 106-348 to extend the authorization for establishing a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor veterans who became disabled while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 831

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 831, a bill to authorize States and local governments to prohibit the investment of State assets in any company that has a qualifying business relationship with Sudan.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 849, a bill to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and in-

demnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to impose sanctions on Iran and on other countries for assisting Iran in developing a nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 991

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 991, a bill to establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

S. 1070

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1070, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes.

S. 1137

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1137, a bill to authorize grants to carry out projects to provide education on preventing teen pregnancies, and for other purposes.

S. 1154

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1154, a bill to promote biogas production, and for other purposes.

S. 1223

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to support efforts by local or regional television or radio broadcasters to provide essential public information programming in the event of a major disaster, and for other purposes.

S. 1310

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1310, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of increased payments for ground ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 1323

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1323, a bill to prevent legislative and regulatory functions from being usurped by civil liability actions brought or continued against food manufacturers, marketers, distributors, advertisers, sellers, and trade associations for claims of injury relating

to a person's weight gain, obesity, or any health condition associated with weight gain or obesity.

S. 1337

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1337, a bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for equal coverage of mental health services under the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

S. 1356

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1356, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to establish industrial bank holding company regulation, and for other purposes.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1382, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1415

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1415, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Social Security Act to improve screening and treatment of cancers, provide for survivorship services, and for other purposes.

S. 1428

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1428, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assure access to durable medical equipment under the Medicare program.

S. 1457

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1457, a bill to provide for the protection of mail delivery on certain postal routes, and for other purposes.

S. 1492

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1492, a bill to improve the quality of federal and state data regarding the availability and quality of broadband services and to promote the deployment of affordable broadband services to all parts of the Nation.

S. 1496

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1496, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include pollinators in certain conservation programs.

S. 1514

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1514, a bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act.

S. 1553

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1553, a bill to provide additional assistance to combat HIV/AIDS among young people, and for other purposes.

S. 1557

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1557, a bill to amend part B of title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

S. 1571

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1571, a bill to reform the essential air service program, and for other purposes.

S. 1588

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1588, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a minor child's congenital or developmental deformity or disorder due to trauma, infection, tumor, or disease.

S. 1593

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1593, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief and protections to military personnel, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1593, *supra*.

S. 1603

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1603, a bill to authorize Congress to award a gold medal to Jerry Lewis, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Nation.

S. 1605

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and pre-

serve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 132

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 132, a resolution recognizing the Civil Air Patrol for 65 years of service to the United States.

S. RES. 203

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 203, a resolution calling on the Government of the People's Republic of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur, Sudan.

S. RES. 215

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 215, a resolution designating September 25, 2007, as "National First Responder Appreciation Day".

S. RES. 224

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 224, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 236, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem.

AMENDMENT NO. 1510

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1510 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1646

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1646 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency,

and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1666

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1666 proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1668

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1668 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1693

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1693 proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1693 proposed to H.R. 6, supra.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1694

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1694 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1695

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as

cosponsors of amendment No. 1695 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1666. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to improve the process for congressional consideration of international social security agreements; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to speak in favor of my bill to improve the process for congressional consideration of International Social Security Agreements.

International Social Security Agreements eliminate dual Social Security taxes when Americans work overseas for U.S. companies, and protect benefits for workers who divide their careers between two countries. As a result, American workers and their companies save approximately \$800 million annually in foreign social security taxes.

The current process for congressional disapproval of these agreements is invalid because it involves the unconstitutional use of a legislative veto. This fact has not been a problem, however, because Congress has never desired to reject an International Social Security Agreement. Indeed, we currently have 21 agreements with most of our top trading partners, such as Canada, Germany, and Japan. However, Congress needs to establish a constitutionally valid process for congressional consideration and either approval or rejection of International Social Security Agreements, similar to the process used for other agreements and treaties.

The bill I am introducing today establishes such a process so that these important agreements can receive full consideration in the Congress. If either the House or the Senate determines that a particular agreement is a bad deal for U.S. workers or will harm the U.S. Social Security system, this bill will allow Congress to reject that agreement. Right now, that option does not exist under current law. This bill would fix that problem.

The bill would require that an "approval resolution" be introduced in both the House and the Senate once an agreement is submitted to Congress by the administration. The resolution will need to be approved by both Houses of Congress before an agreement can take effect. Of course, either House can also reject the approval resolution to prevent an agreement from taking effect.

The bill is cosponsored by Senator GRASSLEY, ranking member of the Fi-

nance Committee. I appreciate the assistance that he and his staff provided in developing this legislation.

I urge the Senate to approve this bill to establish a constitutionally valid process for Congress to consider and either approve or reject International Social Security Agreements.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 1668. A bill to assist in providing affordable housing to those affected by the 2005 hurricanes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today, Senator LANDRIEU and I come to the floor to introduce the Gulf Coast Housing Recovery Act of 2007. This bill will help jump-start economic development in the communities devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It will also help bring people home so they can resume their lives.

At the outset, let me recognize Senator LANDRIEU for all of her efforts to secure assistance for the people of Louisiana, who suffered the lion's share of damage from the 2005 hurricanes. She has worked tirelessly, every day since the storms, to ensure that Louisianans and others in the gulf coast can return to vibrant towns and cities. I also want to recognize the work of Congresswoman WATERS and Financial Services Chairman FRANK, who laid the groundwork for this legislation in the House. They did an outstanding job of ushering a housing recovery bill through the House.

The bill we are introducing today does the following: it authorizes additional funding to help rebuild the gulf coast; it requires the Federal, state and local governments to take additional actions to bring people home; and it requires accountability on the part of FEMA, HUD, and the states and cities receiving Federal funds.

Almost 2 years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, hundreds of thousands of people remain in limbo, wondering if they will be able to return home. The population in New Orleans remains at about half of pre-Katrina levels, though local groups and residents have made clear that many more want to return. Unfortunately, many of these families have no home to return to, and there is great uncertainty about whether adequate services will be available if they do return. As of April of this year, less than half of New Orleans' public schools, a third of its child care centers, and half of its hospitals were open.

Over 82,000 families from across the devastated region are still living in FEMA trailers, which were recently found to contain toxic chemicals. Over 32,000 families are receiving temporary rental assistance through HUD, and over 11,000 others are receiving temporary rental assistance through HUD. Tens of thousands of other families are being assisted by cities, counties and individuals throughout the gulf region and our country.